

**REMARKS**

The Examiner has required the submission of information pertaining to any use of the claimed invention known to the inventors at the time the application was filed and the submission of any information pertaining to the claimed invention being offered for sale or actually sold prior to March 16, 2000.

In response, Applicants provide a declaration, which is attached hereto, which responds to the Examiner's request for information. This declaration demonstrates that the invention was neither offered for sale nor publicly used before March 16, 2000.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully solicit favorable consideration of the pending claims, and the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned if any question or comments arise.

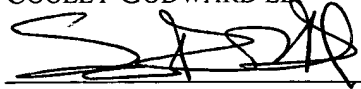
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16, 1.17, and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1283.

COOLEY GODWARD LLP  
Attention: Patent Group  
One Freedom Square - Reston Town Center  
11951 Freedom Drive  
Reston, Virginia 20190-5601  
Tel: (720) 566-4035  
Fax: (720) 566-4099

Respectfully submitted,

COOLEY GODWARD LLP

By:

  
Sean R. O'Dowd  
Reg. No. 53,403